



Press Release

Taipei District Prosecutors Office

Release Date: Sep. 13, 2016
Media Contact: Deputy Chief Prosecutor Chang
Contact number: (02)23146881

Three foreigners of a transnational criminal organization prosecuted for fraud and Offenses against the Computer Security of the Criminal Law

Three foreigners, Mr. Peregudovs Andrejs from Latvia, Mr. Colibaba Mihail from Romania, and Mr. Pencov Nicolae from Moldova, respectively have been indicted in violation of §339-2 I , §358, §359, §360, §362 of the Criminal Law.

An transnational criminal syndicate framed by Mr. Peregudovs Andrejs, Mr. Colibaba Mihail, Mr. Pencov Nicolae, and at least 19 other foreigners had committed the First Commercial Bank's ATM cyber heist. They used the voice recording server of the First Commercial Bank's London branch as a springboard to install malware programs, which later used to trigger withdrawal. They then hacked into the bank's ATM network ahead of the theft of NT\$ 83,277,600 dollars from ATMs of the kind targeted in the heist, that are supplied by German's Wincor Nixdorf company.

Mr. Peregudovs Andrejs, Mr. Colibaba Mihail, and Mr. Pencov Nicolae were part of the transnational crime chain and were assigned to withdraw cash in mask over ATMs in Taiwan when ATMs were infected with malware programs and instructed to spit out cash. The other compliance then deleted evidences of the crime by hacking into the First Commercial Banks' computer in London Branch. The withdrawers then left Taiwan and pick-ups were sent to Taiwan to proceed laundering the proceeds. Later, those pick-ups were arrested and parts of proceeds were discovered.

After investigation, Prosecutor considered the amount of illicit proceeds, the well-organized criminal activities, the magnitude of the hazard to financial order, and the denial attitude of defendants after arrest, asked all three accused to sentence for 12 years' incarceration.